

In the Claims

Please revise the claims to read as follows:

43. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device having a vertically-oriented channel comprising:

a semiconductor substrate including first and second laterally-extending layers of first and second opposite polarity dopants defining a body layer and an underlying drain layer;

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a first trench having sidewalls extending depthwise from an upper surface of the substrate at least through the body layer to a bottom wall at a predetermined depth from the upper surface of the substrate;

a gate oxide layer on the trench sidewalls and the bottom wall of the first trench;

a gate conductor disposed within the first trench to a depth of at least an elevation of the upper surface of the substrate;

fig. 13
a vertically-oriented layer of semiconductor material extending upwardly along the gate oxide layer on the side thereof opposite the first trench, the vertically-oriented layer extending from the body layer to the upper surface of the substrate, the vertically-oriented layer comprising a first vertical layer portion contiguous with the body layer doped with said first polarity dopant to define an active body region including a vertical channel, and a second vertical layer portion atop the first vertical layer portion and forming a PN junction therewith, the second vertical layer portion being doped with said second polarity dopant to form a source region contacting the active body region; and

a vertically-extending source conductor contacting the vertically-oriented layer on a side thereof opposite the gate oxide layer and gate conductor, the source conductor electrically shorting the source region to the active body region across the PN junction;

the gate conductor comprising doped polysilicon contacting the gate oxide layer within the trench and a gate metal layer coextending over the doped polysilicon.

44. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 43 further comprising:

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an insulating layer over the gate conductor; and

an upper metal layer over the insulating layer and contacting the gate conductor through a via in the insulating layer.

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45. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 44 wherein a portion of the upper metal layer over the insulating layer contacts the source conductor in electrical isolation from the gate conductor.

46. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 43 further comprising:

an insulating layer over the gate conductor; and

an upper metal layer over the insulating layer and contacting the vertically-extending source conductor through a via in the insulating layer.

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47. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 43 in which the first vertical layer portion has a lateral thickness less than a vertical height thereof.

48. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 43 in which the first vertical layer portion has a lateral thickness less than 1 μm .

49. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 48 in which the first vertical layer portion contiguous with the body layer is doped to a first doping concentration and a laterally-extending portion of the body layer subjacent the first vertical layer portion has at least a top portion doped to a second doping concentration greater than the first doping concentration.

50. (Twice Amended) A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 43 including a vertically-oriented sidewall spacer extending upward from the upper surface of the substrate, the vertically-oriented sidewall spacer atop [the vertically-oriented layers]

51. (Twice Amended) A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 50 including first and second ones of said vertically-oriented layer on respective sides of the trench, each of the first and second ones having one of said vertically-oriented sidewall spacer thereon, and an insulative layer extending laterally between the sidewall spacers over the gate conductor.

52. (Twice Amended) A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 51 including an upper metal layer extending over the insulative layer and the vertically-oriented sidewall spacer and contacting the vertically-extending source conductor.

53. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 43 in which the vertically-extending source conductor contacts a laterally-extending portion of the body layer at a position spaced below the PN junction.

54. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 53 in which the first vertical layer portion is doped to a first doping concentration defining a threshold voltage of the channel and the laterally-extending body layer is doped to a second doping concentration greater than the first doping concentration.

55. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 43 in which the first trench and the gate oxide layer and gate conductor within the trench form a gate structure which is laterally patterned in two dimensions to define an interconnected matrix enclosing a plurality of islands, each of said plurality of islands containing a downward extending finger of source conductor surrounded by a portion of the active body region including said vertical channel, the channel having a width defined in each island by a perimetral length of the island.

56. (Twice Amended) A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 43 wherein the first trench, the gate oxide layer and the gate conductor together form a gate structure configured as a finger, said recessed gate field effect power MOS device comprising a plurality of said fingers;
the source conductor intermediate the fingers of said plurality of fingers to define an interdigitated source-gate structure.

57. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 43 including at least two of said first trench spaced laterally apart with two of said vertically-oriented layer of semiconductor substrate defining a second trench between the two of said first trench, each first trench containing the gate oxide layer and gate conductor, said source conductor extending into the second trench and contacting the bottom of the second trench and the respective sides of the two vertically-oriented layers.

58. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 43 in which the substrate includes a base layer of said first polarity dopant such that the device defines an alternating PNPN four-layer structure wherein the body layer defines a base of an upper bipolar transistor and a collector of a lower bipolar transistor.

59. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 43 in which the gate oxide layer includes a first portion having a first thickness in a lower portion of the trench and a second portion having a second thickness in an upper portion of the trench, the first thickness being greater than the second thickness.

60. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 43 wherein the gate metal layer comprises aluminum.

61. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 43 wherein the gate metal layer comprises a plateable metal.

62. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 43 wherein the gate conductor comprises a refractory metal silicide over the doped polysilicon, and beneath the gate metal layer.

63. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 62 wherein the gate metal layer comprises a plateable metal.

64. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 62 wherein the gate metal layer comprises aluminum.

65. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 44, wherein the gate metal layer comprises aluminum, and the upper metal layer comprises aluminum.

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Fig. 13
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66. A recessed gate field effect power MOS device according to claim 44, wherein the gate metal layer comprises aluminum, and the insulating layer comprises at least one of the group consisting of oxide, nitride, oxy-nitride, glass, and phosphosilicate glass (PSG).

98. (Amended) A power MOSFET comprising:
a semiconductor substrate, the substrate comprising drain semiconductor material of a first dopant type;
source semiconductor material of a dopant type the same as said first dopant type;
channel semiconductor material of a second dopant type disposed between the source semiconductor material and the drain semiconductor material, the channel semiconductor material operative under field effect to conduct current between the source semiconductor material and the drain semiconductor material;
a conductive gate structure configured to enable provision of a field to the channel semiconductor material;
a gate oxide layer disposed between the conductive gate structure and the channel semiconductor material;
said conductive gate structure comprising ^adoped [a] polysilicon layer contacting the oxide layer and a metal layer disposed substantially coextensively over the doped polysilicon;
an insulating layer disposed over said gate structure; and
metallization over said insulating layer, the metallization contacting the gate structure through said insulating layer.

99. (Amended) A power MOSFET according to claim 98 wherein the metal layer of the conductive gate structure comprises aluminum, the conductive gate structure further comprising a refractory metal-silicide between the doped polysilicon layer and the aluminum.

100. (Amended) A power MOSFET according to claim 98 wherein the metal layer of the conductive gate structure comprises plateable metal.

101. A power MOSFET according to claim 100 wherein the [insulative] layer is deposited at temperature less than 430 C°.

102. (Amended) A power MOSFET according to claim 98 wherein the metal layer comprises aluminum.

103. A power MOSFET according to claim 98 wherein the metallization over said insulating layer comprises aluminum.

106. (Amended) A power MOSFET according to claim 98 wherein the source semiconductor material, channel semiconductor material, and drain semiconductor material are configured to define a vertically-oriented channel structure, said vertically-oriented channel structure comprising an orientation normal to an upper surface of said substrate.

107. (Amended) A power MOSFET according to claim 106, wherein the conductive gate structure comprises a laterally patterned interconnected matrix enclosing a plurality of islands, said plurality of islands comprising respective ones of a plurality of said vertically-oriented channel structure; said power MOSFET further comprising source conductor extending downwardly into said plurality of islands, the source conductor contacting the source semiconductor material of respective said vertically-oriented channel structures of said plurality of islands.
